

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 51 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 11, 16, 21, 31, 26, 32, 37, 42, 45 and 48 to 51 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for allegedly not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, it is alleged in the Office Action that the feature of “displaying the status of a function having a higher priority in an emphasized manner” is not shown in the drawings. However, in FIGS. 4 and 12 to 16, various functions of a multifunction printer are shown. In these figures, functions are shown in a “Print Status” area of a display image with one of the functions shown in a separate area of the display image. In each figure, the function shown in the separate area has a larger size and is displayed in an arc. Applicant submits that such a display of the function is done so in “an emphasized manner.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection to the drawings.

Claims 16 to 20, 26 to 30 and 32 to 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In addition, it is alleged in the Office Action that the “display control” feature of Claims 16, 26, 27 and 32 is not shown in the drawings. Without conceding the correctness of the rejection or objection, Applicant has amended the claims to clarify that a controller controls a process of transferring the print data generated by said generating means to the image processing apparatus and controls a display for displaying the function status. Such a controller is shown in the drawings as host 102 of FIG. 2. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of both the rejection and the objection to the drawings.

Claims 11, 21 and 31 were objected to because of a misspelled word, Claims 8, 13, 17, 23, 27, 33 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention and Claims 31 to 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Each of these objections and rejections have been addressed by appropriate amendment of the claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections and rejections.

Claims 11, 12, 14, 15, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,130,757 (Yoshida). Claims 1 to 4, 6 to 10, 16 to 20, 26 to 30 and 32 to 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,501,485 (Dash) and U.S. Patent No. 5,706,411 (McCormick). Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dash and McCormick in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,785,013 (Ota). Claims 13 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yoshida in view of well-known prior art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a print system which includes: an image processing apparatus for executing an image processing function selected from among a plurality of image processing functions. The image processing apparatus has a print function that can be used by the plurality of image processing functions for printing data on a recording medium, and an information processing apparatus for generating print data to be transferred to the image processing apparatus. The information processing apparatus acquires, from the image processing apparatus, information indicating the function status of the plurality of image processing functions, also executes a process of transferring the

generated print data to the image processing apparatus and displays the function status of the plurality of image processing functions on a display unit based on the acquired information. When in place of one of the plurality of image processing functions another one of the plurality of image processing functions obtains the print function, the information processing apparatus displays information indicating the another image processing function and information showing that the one image processing function cannot be executed.

One feature of the invention is that when in place of one of the image processing functions, another one of the image processing functions obtains the print function, the information processing apparatus displays information indicating the another image processing function and information showing that the one image processing function cannot be executed. In this manner, the user of the information processing apparatus can readily get information showing that the function of printing data from the information processing apparatus has been interrupted by a copy function or a facsimile function and that the data printing function has become unavailable due to the interruption.

In contrast, Yoshida discloses a client apparatus requesting server apparatuses to publish functions they can provide by using a function information requesting unit. The client receives information on such functions from the server apparatuses by using a function information receiving unit and generates a guidance menu based on the received information. Each server apparatus manages jobs requested by the client apparatus by assigning priorities to the jobs by using the job management unit, and searches a job having the highest priority at intervals and executes the job by using the job controlling unit. However, Yoshida fails to disclose, when, in place of one of the plurality of image processing functions, another one of the plurality of image processing functions obtains the print function, an information processing

apparatus displays information indicating the another image processing function and information showing that the one image processing function cannot be executed.

Furthermore, Dash discloses a programmable message storage system for a multifunctional printing system. The programmable message storage system includes a configurable database for listing a plurality of message identifiers, the plurality of message identifiers corresponding respectively with the plurality of messages. The plurality of code sets corresponds respectively with the plurality of message identifiers, and each code set controls a manner in which a corresponding message is displayed on the display screen. In practice, at least one of the plurality of code sets is user programmable so that, in response to user input, the at least one of the plurality of code sets is reconfigured in the database for changing the manner in which the message corresponding with the at least one of the plurality of codes sets is displayed as a function of said reconfiguring.

In addition, McCormick discloses a computer system having a visual display indicating the status of an attached printer. The visual display allows the user to determine various status states of the attached printer without physical examination of the printer itself. Printer states requiring user intervention, and printer states not requiring user intervention, are disclosed. The computer system displays a printer status window which both graphically and textually indicates the printer state. If an error occurs while printing, the Printer Status window preferably indicates the nature of the error, and the steps which must be performed (if any) to continue printing.

However neither Dash nor McCormick disclose that which is missing from Yoshida. Therefore, Yoshida, Dash and McCormick, neither alone nor in combination, neither disclose nor suggest at least the feature of when, in place of one of the plurality of image

processing functions, another one of the plurality of image processing functions obtains the print function, an information processing apparatus displays information indicating the another image processing function and information showing that the one image processing function cannot be executed. In light of this deficiency of the references, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claims 11, 16, 42, and 45 are directed to apparatuses which include features similar to the features of Claim 1, namely, when, in place of one of the plurality of image processing functions, another one of the plurality of image processing functions obtains the print function, enabling the display of information indicating the another image processing function and information showing that the one image processing function cannot be executed. Therefore, Applicant submits that the discussion from above in regard to Claim 1 applies equally to Claims 11, 16, 42, and 45. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 11, 16, 42, and 45 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claims 21, 26, 48 and 49 are method claims corresponding to apparatus Claims 11, 16, 42 and 45, respectively. Claims 31 and 32 are directed to programs stored on a computer-readable medium corresponding to apparatus Claims 11 and 16, respectively. Claims 37, 50 and 51 are directed to computer-readable mediums storing a program corresponding to Claims 16, 42 and 45, respectively. As such, Applicant submits that Claims 21, 26, 31, 32, 37, 48, 49, 50 and 51 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

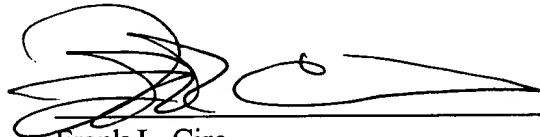
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the

invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the allowability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', written over a horizontal line.

Frank L. Cire
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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